GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:280
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Pollution in Delhi
Ram Shri Vishnu Dayal

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to protect the capital Delhi from increasing smog pollution;
(b) the measures being taken to check the growing pollution in the capital region caused by burning of agricultural residue in neighbouring States; and
(c) the action plan being chalked out by the Government in coordination with the Ministry of Urban Development to make public transport system of Delhi better and free from pollution?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)Several steps have been taken to prevent and control air pollution in Delhi which includes action against polluting vehicles; strict implementation of PUC norms; surveillance against adulteration of fuel; dust control measures at construction sites; prohibition of burning of garbage / organic waste; online monitoring and emission control system in thermal power plants; establishment of Waste to Energy plants and incinerators; strengthening public transport system; promotion of battery operated vehicles; prohibition of non-destined vehicles; levying of environment compensation charge on commercial vehicles entering Delhi; expediting western and eastern expressways, etc.

(b) & (c)In order to check the pollution caused by burning of agricultural waste, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has published National Policy on Management of Crop Residue in 2014. A series of meetings have been held at the levels of Hon'ble Minister, Environment Forest and Climate Change with Ministers of Environment of the States of National Capital Region (NCR) including Delhi and Punjab. Meetings have also been held at Secretary level, with officials concerned of the NCR States and NCT of Delhi and Punjab. They have formulated short term and long term action plan which inter-alia, include promotion of mass transportation system like metro and buses and green transportation such as electric hybrid battery operated vehicles and e-rickshaw, etc.

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